

South Dakota

AUGUST CROP REPORT

News Release

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CORN AND HAY PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, August 12, 2003 – South Dakota's first corn, soybean and hay production forecast for 2003 is for larger crops than last year's drought reduced production, according to USDA's South Dakota Agriculture Statistics Service. More acres to be harvested along with higher yields will cause this year's larger production.

Alfalfa hay production in South Dakota, is forecasted at 5.72 million tons, up 70 percent from last year. Forecasted yield is 2.2 tons per acre, compared to 1.2 tons last year. Alfalfa acres harvested, at 2.6 million, are up 8 percent from 2002. **Other hay** production, at 2.47 million tons, is up 72 percent from last year. Forecasted yield is 1.3 ton per acre, up from .9 a year ago. Other hay harvested acreage, at 1.9 million, is up 19 percent from last year.

Corn production in 2003 is forecast at 451.0 million bushels, up 48 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 110 bushels per acre, up 15 bushels from last year, and 1 bushel above 2001. Acres to be harvested for grain, at 4.1 million, are up 28 percent from last year.

South Dakota's August 1 **soybean** production forecast is 145.8 million bushels, up 15 percent from last year's production. Estimated yield, at 36 bushels per acre, is 5 bushels above last year and would be tied for the second highest yield on record. Acres for harvest, at 4.05 million, are down 1 percent from last year.

Winter wheat production, at 63.84 million bushels, is 3 percent above the July 1 forecast. The yield, at 42 bushels, is up 1 bushel from last month's forecast and up 13 bushels from last year.

Other spring wheat production is forecast at 52.65 million bushels, 3 percent above the July 1 forecast. Yield, at 39 bushels per acre, is up 1 bushel from last month's forecast and is 15 bushels above last year's yield.

Sorghum production is forecast at 8.55 million bushels, up 179 percent from 2002. Expected yield, at 57 bushels per acre, is 23 bushels above last year. Grain sorghum harvested acres, at 150,000, are up 67 percent from last year.

Oat production, at 14.74 million bushels, is up 228 percent from last year and up 3 percent from the July forecast. The forecasted yield, at 67 bushels, is up 22 bushels from last year and up 2 bushels from the July forecast. Acres harvested for grain are forecasted at 220,000, up 120,000 acres from last year's record low.

Barley production is forecast at 3.98 million bushels, unchanged from last month. Yield is forecast at 53 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month's forecast but up 12 bushels from last year.

Dry Edible Bean production is forecast at 27.2 million pounds, up from 26.1 million pounds last year. Expected yield, at 1,700 pounds per acre, is 70 pounds above last year. Harvested acres, at 16,000, are unchanged from last year.

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